Approved For Release 1999/09/08: CIA-RDP82-00457R002200380007-3 CLASSIFICATION SECRET/CONTROL - U. S. OFFICIALS OBLY 25X1A20 REPORT NO. CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY INFORMATION REPORT CD NO. DATE DISTR. 3 January 1949 COUNTRY Bulgaria NO. OF PAGES1 Bulgarian Ministry of Commorce Seeks SUBJECT \$5,000,000 Credit from Fortrade Corporation 43752 in New York NO. OF ENCLS. PLACE 25X1A6a **ACQUIRED** 25X1A2g SUPPLEMENT TO DATE OF INF REPORT NO. 25X1X6 SOURCE Letters from the Bulgarian Ministry of Commerce addressed to one Asson G. Kaney (or Kaneff), a partner in the Italian firm SOCI (Societa Comercio Internationale) of Milan, Italy, indicate that negotiations are in course for the Bulgarian Ministry of Commerce to obtain a \$5,000,000 credit from the Fortrade Corporation in New York. The letters include lists of merchandise, metals, chemicals, and pharmaceutical supplies which are to be purchased with this credit. A letter from the National Bank of Bulgaria, dated 26 November 1948, addressed to Kanev advises him that the bank has deposits in Switzerland amounting to 3472 kilograms in gold bars. Of this amount, 1537 kilograms are earmarked for an unspecified Swiss bank as collateral for a guarantee which the Swiss bank will provide to the National Bank of Bulgaria. There

for free disposal.

The Bulgarian National Bank, according to the same letter, also has 456 kilograms in Belgrade for free disposal and 1309 in its own keeping. In all, the Bulgarian National Bank is able to provide Kanev with 2200 kilograms. If this amount is inadequate, the bank could provide an additional

amount in napoleon d'or.

are 500 kilograms at the disposal of a French bank; 1435 kilograms remain

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Comment: Kanev reportedly collects 30 percent of the profit of SOCI and, in effect, controls the activity of the firm although officially he does not appear on the roster of company officials. He has previously been reported as an official in the Bulgarian Ministry of Interior, a member of the Bulgarian Secret Service Police, and as an Inspector of the Militia.)

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